

New Yorkers For A Day Of Two

Growing of Wine Grapes Has Taken a Big Jump in California and a New Town Built as a Shipping Point Is Ironically Called Volstead.

By Roger Batchelder.

Now, speaking of boosters. While the Automobile Show is on one might think that automobile men would have nothing to say except on the merits of their carabatters, their upholstery, their automobiles in general.

But not so with Walter L. Moreland, President of an auto truck concern of Los Angeles. Mr. Moreland forgot automobiles for the moment (possibly it was a relief) and started in to tell New York all about the part of the country from which he came.

"Some people have the opinion that the grape growers of California went out of business when Prohibition came in," he said at the Astor to-day. "On the contrary, those who formerly grew grapes for wine have never enjoyed the prosperity which has obtained during the past two years. The demand from the East for wine grapes has been so great that they have had to build a new town in California as a shipping point. It

is the significant name of Volstead. Grape growers formerly got from \$15 to \$25 per ton for wine grapes, but during the past two years they have averaged \$130 per ton. And all who dug up their grape vines in fear of Prohibition are busy replanting—no urgent is the demand of Eastern home brewers for grapes.

"Los Angeles has had a tremendous growth during the past year," he went on. "We were the third city in the country where building permits were concerned, running behind only New York and Chicago. We have made great strides in manufacturing and now rank tenth in that, as well as in population. The moving picture industry, which really comes under the head of manufacturing industries, is excluded from these figures. Shipping from the harbor of Los Angeles has also taken a tremendous boom, and we have a direct railroad line to Chicago. Altogether, we are very proud of our progress in every line."

SPEAKING OF FUEL.

Those of us who have to pay our own coal bills and those whose bills are reflected in increasing rents cannot but be interested in the doing of the farmers of the Middle West who, as reports have it, are burning corn in order to keep warm.

"But that is nothing new for Iowa, at least," says Herbert Quick, novelist, and a former member of the Federal Farm Labor Bureau, who is at the Pennsylvania. "After the panic of 1873, the farmers found that they had to burn their excess crop. Corn was much less expensive than wood

or coal, and it was burnable—that's all there was to it in those days. Now we are more expert at finding the causes and seeking the remedy, but while we are doing that the farmer continues to burn his corn to generate enough heat to sustain life.

"This corn is not only burned in the farm house stove, but also in the electric light and power houses," he continued. "And the high freight rates are the cause of the existing situation. When the rates return to normal then the farmer can ship his corn, and in turn purchase fuel at reasonable rates. Other commodities, likewise, will come down. But the present freight rates are retarding any improvement in these conditions."

ARE YOU COLOR-BLIND?

When we glanced at the card index of the Baltimore yesterday the information clerk came to the front and pointed out several features of the day. First, a veritable rainbow of colors had registered during the day.

There were quite a number of Browns, a few Whites, more Blacks, three Greens, four Grays, one Red and one Blue.

We went on and found a Hobbs, the Partridge family, several Drakes and one Bird. Mr. Bird, by the way, shattered the migratory order of things; he came from the South and in January. Mr. Lyon, Mr. Wolf, Mr. Fox and two Katz might have interested Curator Dismars of the Bronx Zoo.

The latest babies to arrive were Mr. Cotton and Mr. Tweed.

"AS OTHERS SEE US."

Since Prohibition prevails in the land of the free and the home of the brave, gentlemen from other countries who have talked to the reporter

cannot understand why anything except water and ginger ale should be matters of moment. For example, listen to Mr. Tomas Acosta y Lima of Havana, at the Baltimore to-day.

"In pursuance of a long-established custom, a lot of people seem to be going on the water wagon in New York," he remarked. "I have seen in New York since the advent of the new year, and during that time I have heard quite a number of men tell each other over the dinner table in the subway cars, and in other places, that they were going to swear off the 'hard stuff' during the year. It seems strange to hear such things when the Volstead act is a law."

FARTHEST FROM HOME.

The "New Yorker For a Day or Two," who is farthest from home to-day is Kozo Tada, who is at the Pennsylvania. His home town, Tokio, is about 7,500 miles from Broadway.

METAPHYSICAL AID VALUED AT \$1,000

Christian Science Practitioner Now Claims Sum From Estate for Treating Woman.

Louis Lowy, Christian Science practitioner of No. 251 West 102d Street, yesterday filed a claim with

Surrogate Cohalan for \$1,000 against the estate of Mrs. Annette Blessing for "metaphysical help" which he alleges he gave her from October, 1914, until shortly before her death in January, 1920.

Mrs. Blessing, according to Lowy, attended the First Church of Christ Scientist, at 96th Street and Central Park West, and was sixty when she began visiting his office, No. 33 West 42d Street. He alleges she told him she was having trouble setting her husband's estate and that at her request he referred her to a lawyer. She assured him from time to time, he says, that she would pay him for his services when the estate was settled, but died without doing so, and her executors have refused his claim. "As a follower of Christ," he says, "I don't believe in suing a patient for

services rendered by me, but I do feel and respectfully ask the court to take into consideration the services rendered, and am willing to let the court fix a reasonable value for the same." Each of his treatments, he says, lasted from half an hour to an hour and a half. He says each visit was worth at least \$2, and while he does not state the number of visits Mrs. Blessing made, the claim would indicate 500 treatments.

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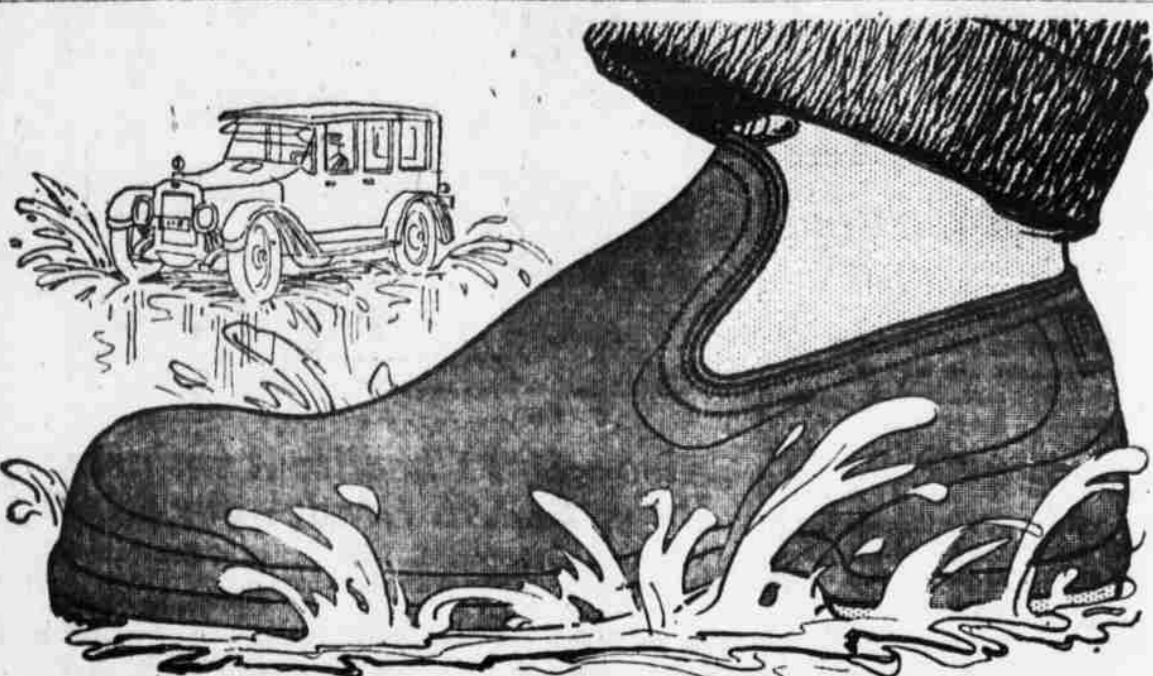
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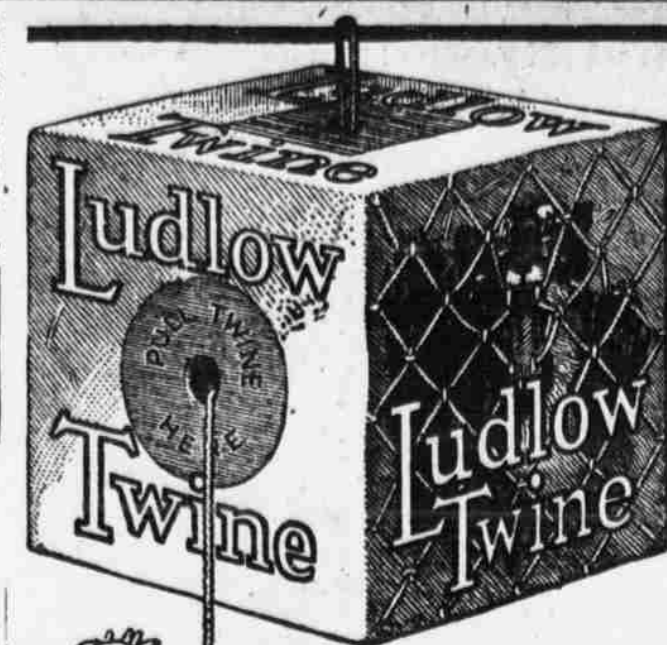
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